Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Grandparents

February 14, 2018, Commission Meeting, 2-4 p.m. .

1 Ashburton Place, Boston, MA 02018

Manning Conference Room 5th Floor

Commission Bridge Number: 617-660-4818

Meeting ID: 6018

Agenda

1. Acceptance of December and January meeting minutes

\**Action required*

1. Financial Report/Budget
* MCOA and DCF reports
1. FY’19 Budget
* Governor’s Proposed FY’19 Budget – commission appropriation
* Budget Amendments:
* Funding for UMass study: would like to commission UMass to study how many grandparents/relative caregivers in Ma? How many children being raised by grandparents/relative caregivers? How many grandparents/relative caregivers have custody via DCF/Juvenile Court? How many have custody via Probate and Family Court? How many grandparents/relative caregivers receive DTA/TAFDC child-only grant? How many grandparents/relative caregivers receive child care assistance through EEC?
* And, the million dollar question: How many grandparents raising grandchildren and relative caregivers are doing so as a result of, or in part, due to the opioid crisis?
* Other questions we would like studied?
* Is this study doable? Would the Legislature support this request?
1. Sub-Committee Updates:
* Information and Referral Sub-Committee:
* Newsletter: New feature “Agency Spotlight”
* Website Update: support group locator page almost complete
* Logo
* Support Group Sub-Committee:
* Support Group Training 3/16/18
* Spring Statewide Workshops – need representatives from the Commission at each workshop
* 2018 Conference scheduled 6/6/18: Keynote Speaker/Regional Workshops/Afternoon Workshops
* Sub-Committee Nominations for Harriet Jackson-Lyons Award and The John Lepper Advocacy Award

*\*Action required*

* Legal Sub-Committee:
* Child care advocacy
* Legislation Update
* Other
* Resource Development Sub-Committee:
* MCOA grant
* Respite Scholarship Program (RSP) Update
1. Directors Report
2. Chairwoman’s Report: End of Year report Update
3. Other Business: